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Attorney for George Washington Sims, III

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

vs.

GEORGE WASHINGTON SIMS, III,
Defendant.

CASE NO: 2:21-cr-00026-GMN-BNW

MOTION TO APPOINT CO-COUNSEL

Defendant George Washington Sims, III, respectfully asks the Court to appoint Mr. James A. Oronoz as co-counsel for the defense. The nature and complexity of this case are such that the interests of justice require appointment of co-counsel and Mr. Oronoz, who is current counsel's law partner and already familiar with the case, is well suited to serve that role.

This motion is made and based upon *Guide to Judicial Policies and Procedures*, Vol. 7, Ch. 2 § 230.53.20(b), the attached memorandum of points and authorities, the pleadings, and papers on file herein, and any argument to be entertained by the Court.

Dated: August 16, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Thomas A. Ericsson

Thomas A. Ericsson, Esq.
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1050 Indigo Drive, Suite 120
Las Vegas, Nevada 89145

Attorney for George Washington Sims III

A. BACKGROUND

This case will go to trial, and presumably the government will be represented at trial by two attorneys in addition to support staff. Mr. Sims should likewise have the benefit at trial of two defense attorneys given the nature and complexity of this case.

This case warrants the appointment of co-counsel because it is extremely difficult, voluminous, and complex. *See Guide to Judicial Policies and Procedures*, Vol. 7, Ch. 2 § 230.53.20(b). This case involved the alleged transportation of three (3) under-age female individuals across the state lines of California and Nevada, the exploitation of under-age females with the intent to force them into prostitution or other behavior of a sexual nature.

1 On July 27, 2017, the undersigned was appointed to represent Defendant George
2 Washington Sims, III, in this matter (*See ECF No. 95*). To date, the Government has produced
3 10,658 pages of discovery, 207 photographs, 1,513 audio files and 54 video files, which comes
4 to an accumulated total of 58 GB of discovery. We have also been advised that there is an
5 additional 46 GB of discovery that will need to be reviewed and examined to develop a defense
6 strategy. Counsel has begun to review the massive amount of discovery and has determined a
7 second experienced attorney is needed to properly represent Mr. Sims. The combined effect is
8 to make this case extremely difficult and complex such that appointment of co-counsel is
9 necessary and appropriate in the interest of justice.
10

11 The defense's preferred co-counsel, Mr. Oronoz, is current defense counsel's law
12 partner, a member of the CJA panel, with over twenty (20) years of experience in civil and
13 criminal litigation. Mr. Oronoz is capable, well-qualified, and more than willing to assume
14 co-counsel duties.
15

16 For all these reasons, the defense respectfully asks that the Court enter an order
17 appointing Mr. Oronoz co-counsel for Mr. Sims.
18

19 DATED this 17th day of August 2021.

20 Respectfully Submitted by:

21 /s/ Thomas A. Ericsson
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25 Counsel for George Washington Sims, III
26
27
28

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ORDER APPOINTING CO-COUNSEL

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, it is hereby ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court shall notify the CJA appoint authority for the District of Nevada of the appointment of attorney James A Oronoz as co-counsel for defendant George Washinton Sims, III.

Order

IT IS SO ORDERED

DATED: 1:24 pm, August 20, 2021



**BRENDA WEKSLER
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**